MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 MAY 1981

Lebanese Crisis

Military Situation--Damascus television, citing a Syrian military spokesman, reported that Arab Deterrent Forces (ADF) in Lebanon downed an Israeli reconnaissance plane over the Al-Biqa' valley early on the morning of 12 May. Jerusalem radio said an IDF spokesman denied the Syrian claim. According to the radio, around noon on 12 May a missile battery inside Syria fired SAM's at Israeli planes on a routine patrol but did not hit any of them. IDF radio's military correspondent later said that no Israeli planes had been in the firing zone during the early morning SAM firing, and it speculated that this might indicate nervousness on the part of the SAM crews.

Voice of Lebanon radio reported that the Syrians have strengthened their air defenses at Al-Qulay'at airbase in Lebanon, bringing in planes and installing two missile batteries nearby. Citing press correspondents, the radio said the Syrians have reinforced their positions in Al-Masna' with armored vehicles. It also reported that they have appointed a new ADF commander. According to Beirut radio, Beirut was calm on 12 May after a period of indiscriminate shelling that had caused scores of casualties. In a statement reported by INA, the chairman of Middle East Airlines announced that the airline's flights to and from Beirut airport will be resumed on 13 May. Clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported further Israeli reconnaissance flights in the south, and Voice of Lebanon said the Israelis have installed radar equipment in the western sector of the border enclave.

Habib Mission--U.S. Special Envoy Philip Habib met with Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir on 12 May, Jerusalem radio reported, and the Israeli Cabinet met later to hear a report from Prime Minister Menahem Begin on his discussions with Habib. The U.S. envoy is to meet with Alignment leader Shim'on Peres today, the radio said, and will then return to Damascus for a second round of talks with Syrian leaders. A Jerusalem radio correspondent reported that Habib has put forward a compromise plan to Israeli and Syrian leaders whereby the Syrians would withdraw their missiles from Lebanon, Israel would limit its overflights of Lebanon and Christian militia activity would be reduced. However, IDF radio reported today that Prime Minister Begin's office announced that the U.S. compromise plan does not mention any restriction of Israeli flights over Lebanon. According to a 12 May report in MA'ARIV, Israel has rejected compromise proposals that permit the Syrian missiles to remain in Lebanon even if Syria pledges to use them for defense purposes only.

Syrian Comment--A Damascus radio commentary said recent declarations by Israeli Prime Minister Begin show that Israel plans to launch a wide-scale attack on Syria and Lebanon and that the United States intends to give free rein to Israeli actions in Lebanon. Israel wants to continue dividing and destroying Lebanon, the radio went one, and plans a preemptive strike against Syria and its army. The radio also carried a commentary by the daily TISHRIN that accused the Phalangists of undermining Lebanon's security and of trying to foil any steps achieved in the talks on Lebanese national accord.

Other Comment, Developments--SPA reported that the Saudi paper AL-BILAD called for collective and urgent Arab action to confront Israel's intention to attack Syria and the Palestinians. AL-JAZIRAH said the United States should shoulder its responsibilities in preserving peace and stability in the Middle East, SPA reported, and asserted that Israel's political and military ambitions should not always be the prime U.S. concern. The JORDAN TIMES said it is naive and impertinent for the United States to think it can mediate in the conflict when it provided arms, money and diplomatic support that allows Israel to demand a status quo based on military superiority. U.S. support for Israel is generating an increasingly intense hatred in the Arab world, it said. The Voice of Palestine said

that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat returned to Beirut after talks with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and senior Iraqi officials and that he later attended an emergency meeting of the Fatah Central Committee, which reviewed the serious situation in Lebanon and decided to continue to intensify efforts to convene an emergency meeting of Arab foreign ministers. Amman television reported that Jordan's King Husayn received a message from 'Arafat dealing with the latest developments in Lebanon.

The Soviet Union will not remain silent over any Israeli aggression against Syria, according to Fatah Central Committee member Salim az-Za'nun in remarks made in Kuwait and carried by Voice of Palestine. The radio quoted Az-Za'nun as saying that Palestinian resistance factions and popular unions in Kuwait have decided to declare a general mobilization among their members. Jerusalem radio reported that the Egyptian charge met with Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir to convey a message on Lebanon from Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

Israel

Knesset Endorses Begin Announcement--According to Jerusalem radio, the Knesset endorsed Prime Minister Begin's speech to the Knesset on the Lebanese situation by a majority vote.

Van der Klaauw Meetings--In reportage on European Community President Christoph van der Klaauw's visit, Jerusalem radio reported that after meeting with Begin and being questioned on the EC's stance on security, the visitor "left in a rage." The radio said Begin expressed surprise at hearing that no European initiative exists. It also said that a message from Syria stating that it wants to refrain from a confrontation with Israel was conveyed to Begin through Van der Klaauw and that Begin had commented that Israel does not want war either. Van der Klaauw met later with Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres, who criticized the EC endorsement of the PLO in the Venice and Brussels working papers.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

KUNA reported that Bangladesh President Ziaur Rahman and Secretary General of the Islamic Conference Habib Chatti left Kuwait for Tehran after a brief visit. They had earlier visited Baghdad, according to INA, where they conferred with President Husayn on the activities of the Islamic good offices committee to end the Iran-Iraq war. The EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY reported that the nonaligned mediation commission arrived in Dubayy from Baghdad and cited Faruq Qaddumi, member of the delegation and head of the PLO Political Department, as saying that the commission had met with success and will continue its contacts during the coming weeks.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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RAFI' LEAVES FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT IN USSR

LD121550 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] Brig Gen Muhammad Rafi', minister of defense, left today for the USSR for medical treatment.

TEXT OF KARMAL SPEECH ON REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

BK130625 Kabul NEW TIMES in English 29 Apr 81 pp 1-4

[Text] Following is the full text of the speech delivered by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of PDPA CC, president of Revolutionary Council and DRA prime minister, in the meeting of the Revolutionary Council on the eve of the third anniversary of the glorious SAWR Revolution.

Honourable, industrious and Muslim compatriots, friends and comrades,

On behalf of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the Revolutionary Council and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and on my own behalf, I present greetings and felicitations to the toiling and honourable people of the revolutionary Afghanistan on the occasion of the third anniversary of the glorious April Revolution. Three years have elapsed since the toppling down of the unlimited active power of exploiters, since the triumph of the national and democratic April Revolution, since the creation of the ruling revolutionary power of the broad masses of Afghanistan.

"The victory of Sawr Revolution was a great turning point in the age-old history of our homeland, directed our society onto the path of deep revolutionary transformations and paved the way in our country for emancipating our country from backwardness and for blazing the trail for the creation of a society based on real social justice.

The experience of the April Revolution, particularly its new evolutionary phase, demonstrated that with giant strides we are getting closer to the realization of the lofty objective of constructing a new society, and are scoring great successes.

"Especially after the victory of the new phase of revolution, the phase of the emancipation of the revolution, people and country, when eliminating all the past mistakes, errors and betrayals emanating from the deviation of revolution from its original course owing to the penetration in the party of agents and spies of enemies in the person of Amin and Aminis, we were able to carry forward the revolution in all aspects and to give it a greater depth and scope despite the difficulties and obstacles and despite the undeclared imperialist war of aggression against the revolutionary Afghanistan.

"The course of the revolutionary changes of our country is the indicator of the firm reality that the revolution of Afghanistan is invincible."

The national democratic April Revolution, particularly its new and evolutionary phase, have engraved their deep impact in all spheres of social life in our country. The revival of the confidence of the masses of people in the party and revolution, the growing participation of national and progressive forces in the defence of the April Revolution and its gains, the broader consolidation of widening social bases of party and our revolutionary state, the turning of the vast masses of people towards revolution, the stabilization of the guiding and constructive role of the PDPA in the process of revolutionary changes and in all spheres of the life of society, the steadier growth of the DRA's international prestige are the powerful factors which all point to the consolidation of the social pillars of our revolution. These new phenomena have great significance in the process of our revolution.

"These victories are still not the final victories. There are still a lot of unresolved issues facing us which as time and experience has shown will be confidently solved by the revolution."

"The growth and development of our revolution and the realization of its great historical tasks is tied unbreakably with the general development of the state of affairs in the region and the world. Hence we consider giving serious attention to problems of foreign policy as part of our historical and revolutionary tasks.

"The principled foreign policy of the PDPA and the Government of DRA is based on the principles of peace, friendship, peaceful coexistence between the peoples, and on cooperation and understanding between the countries of the region and the world based on equal rights, mutual respect, respect for sovereignty and independence, territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of each other, respect of the right of the nations in determining their own destiny, nonalignment, observance of the United Nations Charter and unrelenting support to the revolutionary and anti-imperialist movements all over the world.

"In the present situation and circumstances of the world when, due to the adventurist policies carried out by the reaction and imperialism, dark clouds of tension, the arms race and the danger of the war have darkened the horizon of the international relations, we consider the struggle for peace, detente, disarmament and the limitation of the arms race as the main tasks of all mankind.

"We believe that in the present complicated situation of the world, struggle for the victory of the peace programme for the current decade, put forward in the report of Leonid Brezhnev at the 26th Congress of the CPSU, can be a pivotal step towards the struggle for general peace in the eighties. We support this programme and will continue our struggle along with all peace-loving forces of the world for its realization".

"Dear countrymen, friends,

On the basis of the principled, peaceful foreign policy of the DRA, last year we took important steps and made important initiatives in our relations with the neighbouring countries.

"On May 14, 1980, the DRA Government put forward a specific programme for the normalisation of the situation in the region. In continuation of these initiatives, we made other complementary and constructive initiatives in press media as well as in the official messages sent to the Conference of the Islamic Countries held in At-Ta'if and the Conference of the Foreign Ministers of Nonaligned Countries in New Delhi. We expressed our complete preparadeness for the solution of the differences through talks and bilateral negotiations. It can be said that the Government of the DRA has made all possible efforts for the normalization of the situation in the region. These efforts clearly reflect our peaceful foreign policy. We have taken the necessary steps and now it is up to the leaders of the neighbouring countries, Iran and Pakistan, as to what extent they ponder about their responsibilities towards the normalization of the situation in the region and realize the present situation and as to what practical answers they give to our constructive proposals".

"The friendship and brotherhood of the people of Afghanistan with the toiling masses of the Muslim world remains always intact and is growing in scope and dimension.

"The vast masses of the Muslims of the world decisively support and defend the revolution in Afghanistan. It is only the circles of mercenaries, agents of reaction and imperialists that shamelessly and desperately hatch conspiracies against the toiling masses of Afghanistan.

"We will steadily and unswervingly follow our principled foreign policy course in the region and the world. We will not allow any one to interfere with the destinies of our society and the path that our people have chosen for themselves.

"We once more strongly condemn all attempts of imperialism, headed by criminal U.S. imperialism, towards aggravating tension, the arms race, creation and expansion of military bases, deployment of new military forces against national liberation movements and in general all acts of international terrorism, which are organized by the imperialist forces against the peoples of the world, and whose sharp edge is directed towards revolutionary forces".

"It is the dictate of peace and security in the world, and the peoples of the world declare with powerful voice that warmongering international imperialism, led by U.S. imperialism, quit the Middle East, the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean, stop sending arms to Pakistan, cease exporting mercenaries, murderers and counter-revolutionaries to Afghanistan for committing aggression.

"The PDPA and the DRA Government attach great importance to relations with all the countries who support our liberating revolution, particularly the socialist countries, headed by the peace-loving Soviet Union. In future also, we will develop and expand these relations, which are an important factor in eliminating and repelling aggression from outside and the maintenance of our freedom and independence and social progress in our country.

"Dear compatriots, our present conscientious and zealous generation faces huge and gigantic revolutionary tasks. The main theme of these tasks is bringing about of general democratic changes, purifying of socio-economic relations from medieval, feudal and pre-feudal vestiges for creating the foundation of a new society in the country, improving the level of the people's welfare, consolidation of the bases of an independent national economy, elimination of hunger, ignorance, illiteracy and disease by bringing about social and economic transformations and ensuring democracy at all levels of society with due account taken of the national, cultural and religious traditions and customs of all tribes, nations and nationalities and national groups residing in our country".

"The Central Committee of the PDPA in regard to its internal tasks in the socio-economic and political fields on the whole keeps in mind as its main policy lines the tasks of the defence of the gains of the April Revolution, the sovereignty of the state of toilers and independence of our beloved homeland Afghanistan, consolidation of friendship among the nations and nationalities and tribes of Afghanistan, ever more strengthening of the glorious Armed Forces of Afghanistan as the guardian of our homeland and revolution, democratization of economic and social life, establishment of democratic legality and campaign against obstinacy, lawlessness, raising the level of welfare of the workers, peasants and all working people of the country and betterment of their working conditions, ensuring work for the unemployed, perfection and consolidation of the state security organs of social discipline, consolidation of the unity of the PDPA party ranks, and drawing of the vast masses of toilers in the framework of the National Fatherland Front through their social organizations, raising the level of education, culture and technical and professional training of the people, and preservation and development of the cultural treasures of the people of beloved Afghanistan.

"According to the fundamental principles of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the prime minister should be appointed as a chairman of the Council of Ministers and a commission should be set up in the government administration to serve as the real servant of the working people of Afghanistan. The party and the Revolutionary Council will take decision in this connection".

"Dear compatriots, we are faced with a difficult situation. The burdensome legacies of the past linger on. On the other hand, the enemies of the revolution of Afghanistan, including the internal counter-revolutionaries, reaction of the region, imperialism and at its head the U.S. imperialism in collusion with the renegade hegemonists of Peking are still continuing to create obstacles on the way of our revolution. All these are the factors which add to our problems. But still the victories which we have achieved in the course of our revolutionary struggle are great and positive.

"The process of struggle against the counter-revolution testifies to the advance of revolutionary forces and our striking achievements. The counter-revolution, the enemies of the people of Afghanistan are defeated, but what we should not conceal is that they are not yet totally annihilated. Our struggle still continues in order to clean our sacred land from the filthy existence of the counter-revolutionary criminal bands of robbers and plunderers.

"During the past one year we succeeded in taking some serious steps. We were able to mobilize proper revolutionary pillars in the country against the counter-revolutionary forces. In this great struggle, all the national and progressive forces of the country and above all the members of our party girdled up militantly and rushed along the way to defend the revolution towards the total annihilation of the enemies of the revolution. This is a significant experience for the party and as a whole for the revolutionary movement of the country.

"During the past one year, the heroic armed forces of Afghanistan, the police and the revolutionary security forces could well demonstrate adequate skill and revolutionary ability in the struggle against the counter-revolutionary forces. The patriotic forces of the armed forces which have played a prominent role in the victory of the April Revolution and in the overthrowing of the anti-people regime have proved in the present phase their full preparedness for the confident and decisive defence of the revolution and for the safeguard of national independence and sovereignty of Afghanistan against the external conspiracies."

Thousands of our toiling compatriots are now organized in revolutionary defence groups for the preservation of security in their related areas and regions and to fight against the rebels. They are heroically fighting side by side with our heroic armed forces, the police, members of the PDPA and social organizations to defend the gains of the revolution. We highly and positively evaluate the task of the expansion of rank of all the forces of defence of revolution which is indicative of the active participation of people in the process of the defence of revolution.

"During the past one year, the unity of the ranks of the PDPA was further deepened. The leading role of the party was strengthened. The social basis of the party was further consolidated and expanded. The social composition of the party was considerably changed and as a whole twenty-five to thirty percent of the new party members comprise of workers. farmers, soldiers and other toilers. Quantitatively the party has organized broad masses of toilers in its ranks. The authority of the party organization was increased. And as a whole during the past one year, we can mention the further development of the party in the process of its consolidation as a central issue of revolutionary work and struggle.

During the past one year, the ground was paved for the solidarity and broad unity of national democratic forces under the banner of the vast National Fatherland Front.

"The toilers of our country are rallying in the ranks of trade and social organizations for further solidarity and thus fulfill their obligation towards the people and revolution.

"During the past one year, we could take steady strides toward the consolidation of the country's national economy, and despite the difficulties and subversive activities of counter-revolutionary forces, our agricultural production was at the desired level in the (Afghan) year 1359 (ended March 20, 1981) and the volume of production of a number of state and mixed enterprises increased in comparison with the (Afghan) year 1358. Some of these industrial enterprises could surpass the anticipated plan of their work.

"For the first time, the budget for the solar Hegira year 1359 was without any deficit and maximum use was made of the country's financial resources.

"The flourishing of trade and commerce can be evaluated as very good despite the difficulties.

"In the year 1359, ground was paved for the rapid growth and development of the national economy, culture, education and health and better conditons were provided for the all-sided development of the country. On the basis of these opportunities and with the self-less and untainted help of our friendly country, the Soviet Union, we could draw the plan of socio-economic growth for the year 1360 (begun March 21, 1981) with the implementation of which great and important transformations would prevail in the social and economic life of the people and in the complexion of our society. Based on these possibilities, we were able to increase the salaries of workers and employees from the beginning of the current year.

"I must inform you that today the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council has made an important decision. For the purpose of providing further help to the tillers of the country, fine on the land revenue payable by them for the year 1357, 1358 and 1359 (roughly corresponding to 1978, 79, 80) amounting to 722 million Afghanis have been waived.

"Due to this help of the state, 860,000 families of farmers, which include a total of 4.3 million family members, would be benefitted.

"Similarly, the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council has pardoned 706 political prisoners and once again declares that the arms of the prideful motherland are open to embrace the real sons of the country. Anybody who drops his arms and does not disrupt the peace and security of the country would be dealt with according to justice.

"Dear compatriots, we admit courageously that there are many unsolved problems before us, but the revolution has the capability to solve in the course of its action all these unsolved problems.

"We will continue our principled and righteous struggle for the implementation of the aims of the revolution and to ensure social, economic and cultural transformation. But first of all, we must accomplish our direct task of rebuffing and repelling the external aggression, which is the main obstacle in the way of rapid development of our revolution. Solution of many problems of the revolution is linked with the ensurance of all-round and complete security in the country and the prevention of the criminal, imperialistic aggression. We will continue our struggle against the counter-revolutionaries till their complete annihilation. We can say with full confidence that the victory in this struggle belongs to us, to the people of Afghanistan.

"The counter-revolutionary forces should know that the present conditions deeply differ from those prevailing during the Amani Movement, which was crushed by the plots of the internal and external reactionary forces. If yesterday the counter-revolutionary forces were able to topple down the Amani Movement under the umbrella of the support of colonialism and imperialism, they cannot implement the experiences of a time of decades ago in other forms against the revolutionary forces of the country.

Now the powerful revolutionary party as the conscious, subjective factor leads our society. The liberating Afghan Armed Forces and our free people as an iron fist defend the revolution. Now the attitude of our society is not as it was half a century ago. Today, there exists the mighty socialist camp, headed by the great country of the soviets, which constitutes the solid and reliable bulwark of peace and progress in the world. Now, there are plenty of factors which distinguish the present conditions from those of the period of the Amani Movement.

"The course of the revolutionary changes is a confirmation for this clear fact of our society.

"The revolution of Afghanistan is invincible. The force of this invincibility comes from the will of the majority of the working people and Muslims of Afghanistan for the defence of the gains of the liberating revolution and the unflinching support of the forces of peace and progress in the world.

In spite of all the ups and downs and hardships, we are coming nearer step by step to the final victory by way of struggle which has been chosen by our party.

"We have become accustomed to the difficulties and not only to the difficulties but also to the experience of overcoming these difficulties. This fact is linked with the obvious truth that it is only by practising a principled policy that one can provide answers to the most complicated problems. This is the secret of our victory.

At the end, I want to say that the best way to mark the anniversary of the April Revolution is to focus all care and attention on the unsolved problems of the revolution.

All care and attention should be focused on these unsolved problems, of which there are plenty, and we should achieve one victory after the other victory valiantly.

"Reaction and imperialism, hands off from our country.

"The people of Afghanistan earnestly desire peace and security.

"Long live the peoples' revolution.

"Long live our glorious country, the revolutionary, prideful, free and independent Afghanistan."

HEYWAD: U.S., NATO DON'T WANT AFGHAN SETTLEMENT

LD130602 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0450 GMT 13 May 81

[Text] Kabul, 12 May (BAKHTAR)--"Imperialism and the Reaction Never Want the Well-Being of the People" is the headline of the editorial of the daily HEYWAD today. The editorial reads:

After the April Revolution and its evolutionary phase in particular, imperialism, chauvinism, reaction and Zionism have joined hands and are interfering in Afghanistan.

The fact is that here in Afghanistan, the DRA Government endeavours to construct a blossoming society based on love, brotherhood, equality, freedom, democracy and justice, where the human dignity should be secured for everyone. Every inhabitant of this country should share God's blessings equally and live brotherly.

The U.S. imperialism and her international allies, Chinese chauvinism, Arab reaction and Zionism, do not tolerate such good days for the worshippers of God. They make broad secret and open propaganda by their mass media to deceive the people.

They say that the Soviet troops have come to Afghanistan.

They say that Islam is endangered and if it is so, it is they and their lackeys who have endangered Islam because they kill the Muslims, rob their houses, put on fire their yields and harvests, they destroy the roads, explode the cards, burn the mosques, libraries and schools and extinguish candles of knowledge.

All these actions of them are illegal according to the verses of holy Koran, sayings of the prophet and all regulations of Islam.

The limited Soviet contingents have come to Afghanistan in accord with the request of the Afghan Government on the basis of the treaty and the Article 51 of the UN Charter. As soon as the intrigue of imperialism is stopped against Afghanistan, these contingents will go to their country. But we see that the imperialism is not stopping its interference and continues its undeclared war against the Government of the DRA.

Meanwhile, they carry out a baseless propaganda to confuse the public opinion. A communique was issued recently at the end of the regular session of the NATO foreign ministers in which need for political settlement around Afghanistan was also mentioned. But if we examine this part of the communique, no practical step can be traced behind it, and the facts are contrary to it. We see that the U.S. imperialism and the NATO members never wanted and do not want a settlement to be found around Afghanistan.

In this respect, the political commentators believe that the U.S. imperialism and the NATO members are striving not to find a solution of this issue and to see that fratricides and Muslims killing each other are intensified between Afghanistan and Pakistan. These commentators say that when Pakistan recently expressed hope cautiously to contact the DRA Government, the U.S. imperialism and her allies tried hard to prevent any understanding between the two neighboring Muslim countries and not to let them hear each others' voices.

These comments can be confirmed by the U.S. decision itself to supply Pakistan with a tremendous amount of arms. We can see that imperialism is more pleased to see us fight instead of settling the issues. It never wants Afghanistan and Pakistan to get closer as good neighbours and brothers.

It never wants the well-being, prosperity, progress and security of the people of these countries. But utilizing such events, imperialist and reactionary governments and powers misuse the clean sentiments and sacred motivations of their working people against them and want to master millions of the people forever. They provide all the material wealth for themselves at the cost of the blood and life of those toiling people. But now the time has changed and everyone knows that, as a Pashto proverb says, the apples can be counted although the night is dark.

BRIEFS

GANGS CRUSHED--Kabul, 12 May (BAKHTAR)--Gangs of saboteurs including their ringleaders, Abdul Hai and Khan Mohamm, who resorted to subversive activities in the District of Haska Mina. Shinwar Division, Nangarhar Province and Khan Abad District of Kunduz Province were crushed by the security forces. Another band of counter-revolutionary elements was routed in Zaranu District, Roz Province by the security forces. A quantity of assorted Egyptian, (?American), Chinese and Pakistani armament was confiscated from them. [Text] [Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 13 May 81 LD]

BANGLADESH PRESIDENT, CHATTI ARRIVE IN TEHRAN

GF131116 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 13 May 81

[Text] Bangladesh President Ziaur Rahman and Islamic Conference Secretary General Habib Chatti, accompanied by the delegation studying the Iraqi war imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran, arrived in Tehran today. They were received by President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, who immediately began talks with the delegation.

KUWAITI MEETS RAFSANJANI, REITERATES VISIT REQUEST

LD121252 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] The Central News Bureau reports that the Kuwaiti ambassador to Tehran yesterday met and held talks with Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the prime minister's political adviser. At the meeting, the Kuwaiti ambassador reiterated his previous request for a visit to Iran by a Kuwaiti technical delegation for talks with Iranian officials. He had earlier requested that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran allow the Kuwaiti Government to send a technical delegation to Iran to familiarize itself with the views of the government regarding the war zones declared in the Persian Gulf and to hold talks with Iranian officials. It should be recalled that the Kuwaiti ambassador raised this request at a meeting with Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Iranian Foreign Ministry officials last Thursday.

NABAVI REPORTS TO MAJLIS CLOSED SESSION 12 MAY

LD121204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] The Central News Bureau reports that the Majlis held a closed formal session today. During this session, Behzad Nabavi, minister of state for executive affairs, informed the Majlis deputies about a few points regarding the issues of the hostages and of the $56-million concerned with the arms purchase.

The session adjourned at 1245.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES MADANI, RAJA'I, OTHERS 12-13 MAY

LD121230 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] According to a Central News Bureau report, Ayatollah Madani, the Friday imam of Tabriz; Musavi Tabrizi, the head of the Islamic Revolution Court of Tabriz, and Reyshahri, the head of the military courts of the Islamic Republic of Iran, were received separately this morning by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Our correspondent asked Reyshahri what issues were discussed in the presence of Imam Khomeyni and what were his guidelines. He said: We were received by the imam with some brothers from the headquarters for the neutralization of the plot--the unsuccessful coup d'etat of a few months ago--and we discussed some issues with him. But as these are security issues I am not able to elaborate. The imam also gave us his guidelines.

The Friday imam of Tabriz and the head of the Islamic Revolution Court of Tabriz were also interviewed by our correspondent after their meeting with the imam.

[Begin recording] [Question] Your Eminence Ayatollah Madani, please give us some details concerning your meeting today with the imam.

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. As I have inspected the western fonts during the past week, I felt dutybound to tell the imam what I felt about the shortages or the situation in the area and to ask him for his guidance concerning the duties of the people and the fighters. Therefore, I came to him and told him about the situation. I hope through his guidance we can perform what he has told us and carry out his orders.

[Question] Could you please tell us about some of the imam's guidelines?

[Answer] We emphasized the importance of unity, solidarity and strengthening the fronts. He expressed his hope that soon we can [sentence interrupted by the reporter questioning the head of the Revolution Court of Tabriz].

[Question] (?Musavi Tabrizi), There have been some shortcomings in the revolution courts in eastern Azarbayjan. Did you talk with the imam concerning this matter?

[Answer] We have courts in Ardesil, Maraghe, (Arab) and Meshkinshahr they report to us. At times, there are some shortcomings. We also have some difficulties in the Revolution Court of Tabriz. In all the courts in the province we have some shortcomings, both in west and east Azarbayjan. I mentioned this yesterday to the imam, and he issued certain orders. Today I held a lengthy discussion with Ayatollah Qoddusi about these shortcomings. The reasons for these shortcomings were given to us by the imam himself. Yesterday he said that at the moment we need thousands of judges, whom we do not have. I ask all leading gentlemen, all the learned ulema to assist in this matter and introduce good judges to the Supreme Judicial Council so that they can be appointed. In east and west Azarbayjan we need at least 10 shar' judges--at the moment we do not even have 4. This is very important. We hope--God willing--that with the help of the ulema, with our own efforts and with the assistance of God we can form revolution courts and revolution prosecutors in all the large cities of the province so that the work of the Revolution Court of Tabriz may be reduced and thus carried out better, faster and earlier. The imam gave me some guidance on this matter. [end recording]

[Tehran International Service in Arabic at 1100 GMT on 13 May reports that "Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, today received Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, accompanied by Industries and Mines Minister Nematzadeh. They held talks with his eminence."]

AZARBAYJANI OFFICIAL FIRED OVER ANNOUNCEMENT

LD130850 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 May 81

[Text] The Council of Ministers of the Islamic Republic of Iran held a session today that began at 0600 and was chaired by Prime Minister Raja'i. Following a recitation from the holy Koran, the session reviewed arrangements of the Iranian Atomic Energy (?Commission) and certain decisions were made.

Council members were most critical of the announcement made by the director of the Department of Islamic Guidance in western Azarbayjan, which was issued without due regard for religious considerations, which are the guidelines for all the duties of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The minister of national guidance announced the termination of this person's contract.

The session also discussed and approved the country's budget for the first 4 months of the current year by approving the second 2-monthly budget.

The Council of Ministers approved the allocation of 1 billion rials to aid compatriots in flooded areas; 500 million rials as a loan for continuing construction operations by the Power Ministry that were begun prior to the approval of this year's budget by the Islamic Consultative Assembly; 200 million rials for nurseries and rural centers as suggested by the minister [of state] of executive affairs and head of welfare; and 13 million rials for propaganda and other activities to be carried out by the Ministry of Higher Education and Culture to mark the Islamic revolution anniversary.

RAJA'I APPOINTS ADVISER FOR EXECUTIVE AFFAIRS

GF131155 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 13 May 81

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i has appointed Dr Mahmud Ruhani as his assistant and adviser for executive affairs.

MONTAZERI, ARMENIAN BISHOP HOLD TALKS IN QOM

LD131438 Tehran Domestic SErvice in Persian 1030 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] According to a Central News Bureau report, the head of the Armenian Council of Bishops of Tehran, bishops and priests from Esfahan and Tehran, and the legal adviser of the Bishopric last night held a meeting in Qom with Ayatollah Montazeri. While condemning the recent divisive conspiracies aimed at creating division between Muslim and Christian compatriots, they expressed their belief in and respect for the Islamic Republic of Iran. At the meeting, Ayatollah Montazeri, while praising and thanking them, said: In Islam and in the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran the rights of minorities are completely safeguarded and respected. Any violation against them is an offence.

He referred to the famous decree of His Holiness 'Ali--may God's peace be upon him--and to Malek Ashtar in Nahej al-Balagha [a book ascribed to 'Ali] about respecting the rights of religious minorities.

BANI-SADR VISITS LORESTAN WAR VICTIMS 12 MAY

LD121304 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 May 81

[Correspondent's dispatch from Khorramabad]

[Text] Bani-Sadr, our country's president, accompanied by Mirsalim, supervisor of the Foundation for War Victims, flew into Khorramabad this morning. He was welcomed by the governor general of Lorestan, clergymen, and commanders of the region's military and security forces.

In an interview with the Central News Bureau correspondent, the commander in chief was asked what his aim was in coming to Lorestan. He replied: Our aim in travelling to Lorestan is to visit the war victims. It also has an international aspect, which is that the people of the world might see that despite Iraq's aggression, they have chosen Islam and their Islamic homeland. This trip also has a human aspect, which is that we are faithful to those who have been faithful to the Islamic Republic.

Regarding the plan proposed by the Nonaligned Movement delegation, the president said: We do not view this unfavorably, but there are questions to which they should reply so that they can be clarified.

Regarding the battlefronts and the recent developments there, the president said: The developments have been toward our increasing success and our strength from a morale viewpoint. And our strength from the viewpoint of battle mobility is very good; I hope that it will improve.

Then together with his entourage Bani-Sadr left by helicopter for (?Ezna) camps to view the problems of the Lorestan war victims.

GOVERNMENT CONDEMNS BOMBING OF KURDISH PRISON

LD121252 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 May 81

[Statement issued on 12 May by the Government of Islamic Republic of Iran on Iraqi bombing of (Dowletu) Prison]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate the merciful. The defunct [Kurdish] Democratic Party prison in (Dowletu), in Sar Dasht, in which more than 200 of the best and bravest offspring of the Islamic revolution were imprisoned, was bombed with napalm by MiG's and helicopter gunships of the infidel Saddam's mercenaries on Thursday, 7 May. A group of the brave offspring of our Islamic homeland consisting of Kurdish, corps, army and reconstruction crusade brothers who had spent more than 2 years' bondage in the hands of the traitor Qasemlu and the Democratic Party were martyred in the prison. Using information that they had received from internal agents and traitorous lackeys of the Democratic Party in the area, and with the help of a fifth column and the beckoning and help of imperialist and Zionist hirelings, who also claim to support the interests of Kurdish brothers, the mercenaries of the infidel Saddam were able to bomb (Dowletu) Prison.

This crime of Saddam's infidels has once again revealed the evil nature of the enemy, the internal mercenaries and hirelings to the people of the region. The alertness of the people of (Dowletu) and their expression of disgust over the perpetrators of this inhuman crime have shown that the Muslim Kurdish people have recognized the traitors now more than at any other time. Those godforsaken traitors, who treat prisoners in such criminal fashion and who prepare the ground for the infidel Saddam's mercenaries to slaughter Muslim prisoners, (?should know) that the time for the triumph of right over evil has come. The democrats and the traitors among the Kurdish people who have felt that they have been increasingly hated by the brave Kurdish brothers and the heroic nation of Iran, now, in the last moments of resistance that precede their disgraceful defeat--like all of history's executioners and criminals--kill innocent prisoners and, hand-in-hand with the infidel Saddam, honor their vow of servitude to Zionism and imperialism. Those groups that have sworn oaths of fraternity with the likes of Qasemlu and have created internal disturbances, thus trying to (?underestimate) the pagan enemy and hide the criminal nature of the likes of Qasemlu and his allies--how would they justify the overt crime they have committed against the offspring of the Islamic homeland in (Dowletu) Prison?

You, O heroic and martyr-nurturing nation of Iran, recognize the evil faces of the mercenaries of imperialism and their internal protectors and know that the hand of vengeance will soon catch up with the criminals and traitors to the Islamic revolution. Our Muslim nation will avenge every drop of our martyrs' blood on those traitorous criminals, who are the enemies of Islam and the people of Kordestan, as well as on their allies and protectors.

[Signed] The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF ISSUES COMMUNIQUE 500

LD121758 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 May 81

[Communique 500 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republid of Iran]

[Text] In his exalted name. The situation at the battlefronts during the past 24 hours and the operations of the self-sacrificing combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran are brought to the attention of the dear and Muslim compatriots.

At 1230 yesterday, defenders of our homeland's airspace downed an aggressive Iraqi MiG in Marivan with antiaircraft guns. This plan crashed in the region of (Halabcheh).

Approximately 30 enemy personnel were either killed or wounded during clashes and operations in the Marivan border region. Artillery fire by our ground forces also destroyed an enemy cannon and six vehicles in the (Biarah) region of Iraq during these engagements.

Artillery and mortar exchanges continued between our forces and the enemy yesterday in the Meymak Heights. Sporadic exchanges of fire also continued in the Kani Sakht Heights, (Konjan-Cham) and other battlefronts in this region.

At 0900 today, artillery units of our ground forces opened heavy fire on the Iraqi aggressive forces at one of the fronts west of Dezful, destroying two enemy tanks and two ammunition dumps. The enemy is reported to have lost 30 men during these operations.

Artillery and mortar firings continued between our self-sacrificing forces and the invading Iraqi Armed Forces on most battlefronts west of Dezful yesterday. Our combatants tied down the enemy, destroyed a cannon, an immunition dump and two mortar entrenchments and damaged an Iraqi tank. Several enemy personnel were either killed or wounded.

Artillery and mortar exchanges continued yesterday on the Ahvaz, Susangerd and Shush fronts. Sporadic fire also continued on the Abadan and Khuninshahr fronts. As a result of the artillery and heavy weapons fire of our combatants stationed in these regions, a 106-mm gun, a mortar launcher, a 23-mm gun, a truck and several enemy trenches and foxholes were damaged. Our forces also succeeded in putting two enemy tanks out of action.

Abadan came under enemy artillery and other long-range weapons fire yesterday and today. Some residential districts and government installations were damaged.

In fighting on 10 May, four combatants of the ground forces, nine self-sacrificing personnel of the navy and one brave warrior of the gendarmerie gained the honor of martyrdom and irrigated the sapling of victory with their pure blood. May their souls be happy.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

[Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 1630 GMT on 12 May carries another report from Abadan noting that "yesterday afternoon firing continued between the combative Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Feda'ian-e Eslam on the Zulfaqari and Hahmanshir fronts. The brother guards opened up heavy mortar fire on two observation hills of Saddam's invaders in the Abadan area and prevented the enemy from carrying out any operations. As a result of this fire, two of Saddam's mercenaries were wounded. Other brother guards also opened fire on positions of the mercenaries in Abadan, destroying several trenches and either killing or wounded some personnel."

[The report also notes that "sporadic fire was exchanged on the Bahmanshir and Zulfaqari fronts beginning at 0600. This clash was intensified at 0800. During these operations, the brother guards corps and Feda'ian-e Eslam opened heavy fire on aggressor positions in Abadan and destroyed several mercenary trenches. At 0815, as a result of accurate firing by the Feda'ian-e Eslam, one enemy ammunition dump and one tank were set ablaze and its servicemen were killed. The smoke rising from this destruction was clearly visible until 0930."

[Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 2030 GMT on 12 May carries a report quoting the operational commander of the Javanrud Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. The report says that "as a result of 3 days of consistent operations, all the strategic heights in Khaneh Shur and its environs have been occupied by the forces of Islam. During these operations, two posts that had previously been held by Iraqi mercenary agents were also liberated. Our own forces suffered no casualties during the operations."

[Another report on Tehran Domestic Service at 2030 GMT on 12 May notes that "the cowardly hangmen of Saddam's army today once again subjected the resisting, heroic redoubt of Dezful to their barbarous missile and artillery attacks. As a result, houses in several parts of the city were damaged. According to a dispatch sent from Ahvaz by Central News Bureau and PARS correspondents, from 1830-1930 today, Iraqi Army mercenaries attacked Dezful several times; several of our innocent compatriots were either martyred or wounded by artillery shells and surface-to-surface missiles. Reports we have received say that Saddam's infidels fired five surface-to-surface missiles that were 9 meters long at the heroic city of Dezful. Windows were broken and buildings were damaged within a 2-mile radius of the center of the explosions."]

COUNTERFEITING RING REPORTEDLY DISCOVERED

GF130918 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 13 May 81

[From the press headlines feature]

[Text] SOBH AZADEGAN reports that the Revolution Guards Corps has uncovered a ring for counterfeiting money and issuing false passports and official documents.

NATIONALIST PARTY OF IRANIAN WORKERS STATEMENT

NC092219 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 8 May 81

["Text" of statement by the Nationalist Party of Iranian Workers issued 7 May declaring its unity with the Bakhtiar-led National Resistance Movement of Iran (NRMI)]

[Text] Your Excellency Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar, leader of the NRMI: We respectfully wish to state that following lengthy talks on the (?compatibility) of the policies of the NRMI and Iranian nationalism, which were carried out in meetings between officials of both groups and in the meeting and exchange of views with Your Excellency, we wish to inform you that on the basis of the principle of mutual trust and in view of the critical political, economic and social situation in Iran, which has made each and every noble and alert Iranian devoted to Iranian nationalism think of finding a way to release Iran from the yoke of the clerical regime, we, the Nationalist Party of Iranian Workers, having faith in our political beliefs--which place national and public interests above personal interests, which consider public welfare the loftiest of ideals, which want to see Iran free and independent, and which believe in emphasizing (?Islam), the freedom of religion and in ensuring social justice--officially declare our unity with the NRMI by virtue of a unanimous vote by our leadership cadre.

In order for these ideals (?to be fulfilled as best as possible), Iran should be led by and (?develop) under Iranian ideology, [word indistinct] and Iranian hands without any dependence on world policies. The party will naturally exert all its efforts to prevent any (?discord or rift) in organizing the movement.

By virtue of a decision adopted by the leadership cadre of the Nationalist Party of Iranian Workers, Amir Hushang Sepehr has been appointed as the representative to participate in the meetings of the NRMI Leadership Council.

[Signed] The Nationalist Party of Iranian Workers